

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Forty-seventh Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2006

# **HOUSE BILL 2059**

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 41-603, 41-604 AND 41-611, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES;  
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:  
2       Section 1. Section 41-603, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4           41-603. Powers and duties

5       A. The department may act as guardian of an incapacitated veteran, the  
6 incapacitated spouse of a veteran or minor children of a veteran, or as  
7 conservator of the estate of a protected veteran or of the veteran's  
8 incapacitated or surviving spouse or of the minor children of a veteran. The  
9 department may act in all fiduciary matters, including as power of attorney,  
10 trustee, custodian or representative payee of a veteran, spouse of a veteran  
11 or minor child of a veteran. The department may act as the personal  
12 representative of the estate of a deceased veteran, deceased spouse of a  
13 veteran or deceased child of a veteran.

14       B. The department shall:

15           1. Assist veterans and their families and dependents in presenting,  
16 providing and establishing claims, privileges, rights and benefits they may  
17 have under federal, state or local law.

18           2. Inform veterans and their families and dependents and military and  
19 civilian authorities about federal, state and local laws enacted to benefit  
20 veterans and their families and dependents and members of the armed forces.

21           3. Collect information relating to services and facilities available  
22 to veterans.

23           4. Cooperate with all government and private agencies receiving  
24 services for or benefits to veterans and their families and dependents.

25           5. Conduct administrative reviews and, if possible, correct abuses or  
26 prevent exploitation of veterans and their families or dependents and  
27 recommend corrective legislation.

28           6. Adopt rules deemed necessary to administer this article.

29           7. Enter into agreements with veterans' organizations in this state  
30 holding a charter granted by the Congress of the United States for the  
31 beneficial interest of veterans.

32           8. Verify and provide written confirmation to the person of  
33 eligibility for special license plates issued pursuant to section 28-2455 by  
34 determining that all of the following are true:

35              (a) The person was a member of the United States armed forces on  
36 December 7, 1941.

37              (b) The person received an honorable discharge from the United States  
38 armed forces.

39              (c) The person was on station on December 7, 1941, during the hours of  
40 7:55 a.m. to 9:45 a.m., Hawaii time at Pearl Harbor, the Island of Oahu or  
41 offshore, at a distance not exceeding three miles.

42           9. Evaluate, supervise, approve and disapprove programs offered by  
43 educational institutions and training establishments pursuant to United  
44 States Code titles 10 and 38 and state rules, so that veterans and their

1 dependents may draw the educational allowance provided by federal law while  
2 pursuing approved programs.

3       10. Approve or disapprove veterans' organizations seeking to solicit  
4 money or other support in this state in the name of American veterans.

5           C. The department may:

6            1. Acquire property for and construct and operate a veterans' home  
7 facility in southern Arizona.

8            D. ~~2. The department may~~ Acquire property for and establish and  
9 operate cemeteries for veterans in this state.

10          3. ACQUIRE PROPERTY FOR PRESERVING AND ENHANCING MILITARY  
11 INSTALLATIONS IN THIS STATE.

12          4. ESTABLISH A TRAINING CENTER TO PROVIDE TRAINING TO CURRENT OR  
13 POTENTIAL EMPLOYEES AND THE VETERAN COMMUNITY. THE DEPARTMENT MAY ESTABLISH  
14 A FEE FOR THIS TRAINING.

15       Sec. 2. Section 41-604, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

16          41-604. Director of veterans' services; compensation

17           A. The governor shall appoint the director pursuant to section 38-211.  
18 The director shall be a veteran.

19           B. The director shall inform the commission regarding the policies  
20 adopted by the department under this article.

21           C. The director may appoint a deputy director with the approval of the  
22 governor. The deputy director serves at the pleasure of the director. The  
23 deputy director is directly responsible for the duties delegated to the  
24 deputy director by the director.

25           D. The director and deputy director are eligible to receive  
26 compensation pursuant to section 38-611.

27           E. The director may appoint advisory committees as the director deems  
28 necessary. Members of advisory committees are not entitled to compensation  
29 but are eligible for reimbursement of expenses pursuant to title 38, chapter  
30 4, article 2.

31          F. THE DIRECTOR MAY CONTRACT WITH A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION TO WORK ON  
32 ISSUES RELATING TO WOMEN VETERANS.

33       Sec. 3. Section 41-611, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

34          41-611. Veterans' deferment of tuition payment, required books  
35                   and materials; period; promissory note

36           A. ON REGISTRATION AT A STATE SUPPORTED COMMUNITY COLLEGE, COLLEGE OR  
37 UNIVERSITY, any person who ~~has a valid certificate of eligibility and has~~  
38 ~~applied for benefits under the veterans' readjustment assistance act~~ IS  
39 ELIGIBLE FOR AND HAS APPLIED FOR BENEFITS for education UNDER THE MONTGOMERY  
40 GI BILL (38 UNITED STATES CODE CHAPTER 30 OR 32; 10 UNITED STATES CODE  
41 CHAPTER 1606) may, ~~upon registration at a state-supported community college,~~  
42 ~~college or university,~~ apply for a deferment of payment of tuition, fees and  
43 required books and materials for a period not to exceed one hundred twenty  
44 days. ~~Such~~ THE community college, college or university shall defer ~~such~~  
45 payment for ~~such~~ THAT period ~~upon~~ ON receipt of a signed and acknowledged

1 promissory note for the amount of ~~such~~ THE tuition, fees and required books  
2 and materials, with no interest charge, that is due and payable at the end of  
3 ~~such~~ THE DEFERRAL period. THIS DEFERMENT IS AVAILABLE DURING ANY  
4 REGISTRATION IN WHICH A VETERAN IS AWAITING MONTGOMERY GI BILL BENEFITS.

5 B. If at the end of ~~such~~ THE DEFERRAL period the person has not yet  
6 received from the veterans administration the initial benefit monies for  
7 tuition and fees, ~~he~~ THE PERSON may be granted an extension until such time  
8 as ~~such~~ THE benefits are received.

9 C. In situations where deferred payments are granted, the community  
10 college, college or university shall not release the person's grades or  
11 transfer credits until such time as the debt is satisfied.